

As the bells ring in our third century, as millions of free men and women pray, let every American resolve that this Nation, under God, will meet the future with the same courage and dedication Americans showed the world two centuries ago. In perpetuation of the joyous ringing of the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, let us again "Proclaim Liberty throughout all the Land unto all the Inhabitants thereof."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of June in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4447

June 30, 1976

National Bicentennial Highway Safety Year, 1976

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Millions of Americans—men, women, and children—are planning to see and participate in Bicentennial activities. An expected twenty million visitors from abroad will also participate.

The overwhelming majority of those involved in Bicentennial related activities will travel on the Nation's roadways. Since the beginning of the automobile age, over two million Americans have died on our Nation's highways. This exceeds the combined total of all the fatalities suffered in all the wars that this country has fought since its founding.

The Congress has requested (H.J. Res. 726) that the necessity for highway safety be recognized by Presidential proclamation so that our Bicentennial year does not become one of unparalleled carnage and slaughter on the highways. *Ante*, p. 715.

The Congress has further requested that all Americans participate in monthly safety programs during a National Bicentennial Highway Safety Year, with emphasis on the following specific activities: July—Safer Driving; August—Roadside Obstacle Elimination; September—Save Our Children; October—Signs and Signals; November—Railroad Crossing Protection; December—Alcohol and Problem Drinkers; January—Safety Education; February—Safer Bridges; March—Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety; April—Pavement Marking and Delineation; May—Highway Hazard Removal; and June—Safety Belts and Child Restraints.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim that the twelve-month period beginning the month of July, 1976 is designated as National Bicentennial Highway Safety Year.

As requested by the Congress, I call upon Americans in all walks of life, in both the public and private sectors, as individuals, groups, and organizations, to participate in appropriate programs and activities, at home, at work, and on the highway, so that lives may be saved and injuries prevented—symbolizing the rededication of the

American people to living and working together in a spirit of mutual cooperation, harmony, dignity, and respect in order to achieve better, healthier, happier lives for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4448

July 2, 1976

Captive Nations Week, 1976

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

This year we mark the beginning of our third century as an independent nation. Two hundred years ago our Declaration of Independence declared that "all men are created equal." It did not say "all Americans" but embraced all men everywhere. Throughout our history we have repeatedly demonstrated our conviction and concern that men and women throughout the world should share the full blessings of liberty.

As we celebrate our Bicentennial, it is important that we let the world know that America still cares, that the torch in the Statue of Liberty still burns brightly. The world should know that we stand for freedom and independence in 1976, just as we stood for freedom and independence in 1776.

For two centuries, the fundamental basis of American policy toward other nations has remained unchanged: the United States supports the aspirations for freedom, independence and national self-determination of all peoples. We do not accept foreign domination over any nation. We reaffirm today this principle and policy.

The Eighty-Sixth Congress, by a joint resolution approved July 17, 1959 (73 Stat. 212), authorized and requested the President to proclaim the third week in July of each year as Captive Nations Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning July 18, 1976 as Captive Nations Week.

I call upon the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities, and I urge rededication to the aspirations of all peoples for self-determination and liberty.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this second day of July in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD